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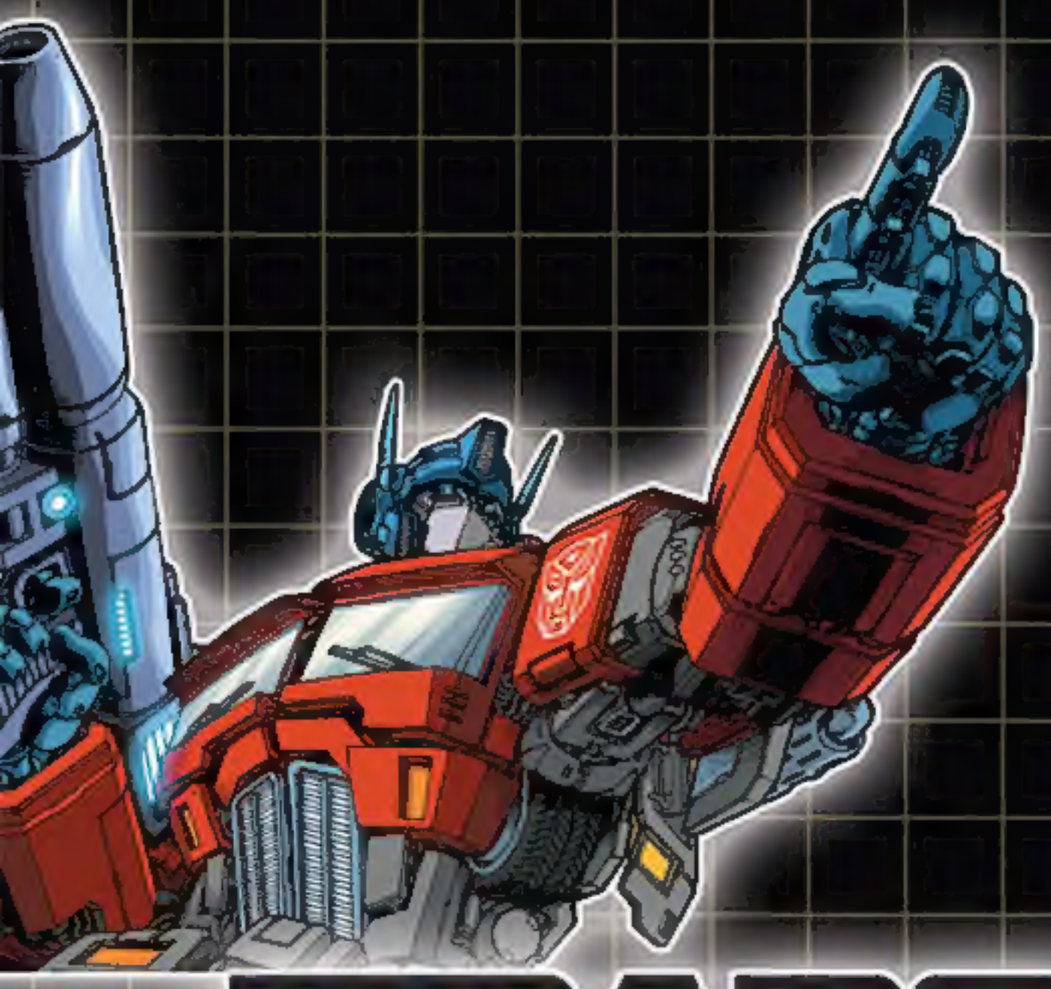

THE TRANSFORMERS

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STORY SO FAR:

Megatron has returned to Earth in a new and much more powerful body. He has sent a cache of incredibly dangerous weapons ahead of him, and through subversion and manipulating the general climate of fear, has turned humans against the Autobots. Decepticons have broken out prisoners from the Skywatch base, and Megatron has now captured many of Ultra Magnus' team. Little does he know, Prime and a group of Skywatch agents have emerged from the Pacific, where they were thought to be lost...

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I DON'T CARE WHAT THEY SAY ABOUT MANUFACTURING OXYGEN. THIS JUST DOESN'T SEEM SAFE.

NEVER GOT A CHANCE TO CALL MY SISTER.

YOU HAVE A SISTER? SHE'LL FORGET ALL ABOUT YOU.

OH GOD!

AAAH!

YOU OKAY, SKIP?

YEAH, IT'S JUST... DREAMS.

FORTY-SOME HOURS TRAPPED UNDERWATER IN A TRAILER... IT'S PROBABLY GONNA TAKE SOME TIME TO IRON THAT OUT OF MY BRAIN.

ANY CHANGE IN THE SIGNAL COMING FROM THE ALBUQUERQUE BASE?

HAVEN'T CHECKED IN THE PAST HOUR.

CHECK IT AGAIN.

Evacuation

STILL BROADCASTING THE OFFLINE DISTRESS... WAIT, THERE'S SOMETHING UNDERNEATH IT.

PRIME, YOU'LL WANT TO SEE THIS.

GREETINGS, PRIME.

THE DAY HAS COME, AS YOU KNEW IT WOULD. YOU KNEW I'D NEVER DIE THAT EASILY. JUST AS I KNOW THAT, DESPITE DESTROYING YOUR TRANSPORT, YOU TOO HAVE SURVIVED.

THE SAME CANNOT BE SAID FOR SOME OF YOUR SOLDIERS. OR THESE RIDICULOUS ARMY-MEN YOU CONSORT WITH NOW. YOU AUTOBOTS DIE TOO EASILY.

I WON'T INSULT YOU BY EXTENDING AN INVITATION, PRIME. WE BOTH KNOW YOU'RE ON YOUR WAY TO SEE ME WITHOUT ONE. BUT FEAR NOT—I AM NOT GOING TO KILL YOU.

I AM GOING TO ***DESTROY*** YOU.

I PROMISE YOU, WHEN THIS IS OVER, YOU WILL KNOW THE DIFFERENCE.

MAGNUS...

WHERE DID THAT TRANSMISSION COME FROM?

OUTSIDE OF ALBUQUERQUE.

A POPULATION CENTER.

LET'S GET READY TO MOVE.

HALF-DEAD FROM EXHAUSTION?

CHECK.

LOW ON POWER AND AMMO?

CHECK.

NERVES FRIED FROM COMBAT-FATIGUE AND BEING IN AN UNDER-WATER COFFIN FOR TWO DAYS?

OH, THAT'S A BIG CHECK...

REVENGE OF THE DECEPTICONS
PART 4: BURNING CHROME

OKAY THEN.

LET'S ROLL OUT.

...NO...

THUNDERCRACKER, YOU OKAY?

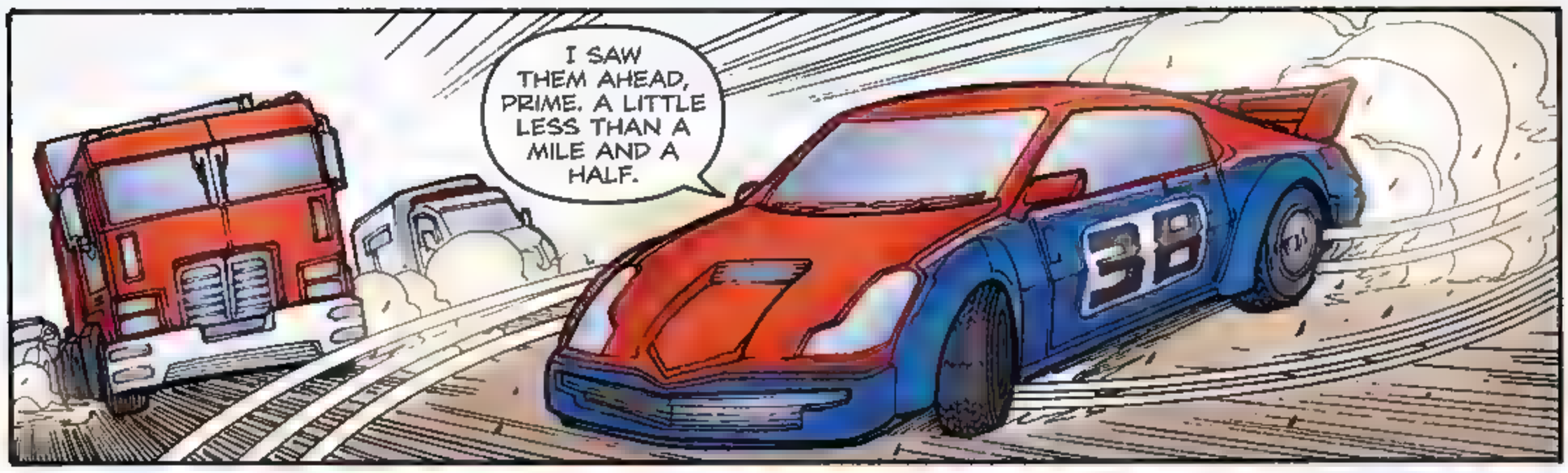
NEED... RATCHET.

THUNDERCRACKER, I HAVE A PRISONER HERE. I CAN ONLY HAUL ONE 'BOT AT A TIME.

...REALLY... BADLY HURT HERE...

UHHH...

DAMMIT.


I SAW THEM AHEAD, PRIME. A LITTLE LESS THAN A MILE AND A HALF.
AUTOBOTS, ASSEMBLE.
WE GO THE REST OF THE WAY ON FOOT.

ALL OF YOU STAY BACK. I DON'T WANT YOU TO ENGAGE UNTIL WE'RE CERTAIN WHAT'S GOING ON HERE.

MEGATRON.

I SEE YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED.

PUT YOUR ARMS DOWN, PRIME, YOU LOOK LIKE AN OAF.

I AM IMPERVIOUS TO WHATEVER WEAPONS YOU COULD POSSES. YOU ARE NO THREAT TO ME. AND SOUNDWAVE WILL KILL ULTRA MAGNUS IF ANY OF YOUR AUTOBOTS ATTEMPT AN AMBUSH.

DO YOU SEE THE CITY BEHIND ME, PRIME?

OF COURSE. IS THAT WHAT YOU'RE HERE FOR? TO DESTROY IT IN FRONT OF ME!

DON'T BE AN IDIOT, PRIME. YOU'D ONLY ATTEMPT TO STOP ME AND I'D PROBABLY ACCIDENTALLY KILL YOU. AND I CAN'T HAVE YOU DEAD YET.

THE CITY. THERE ARE 46 HUMANS ARMED WITH WEAPONS THAT CAN KILL YOU ALMOST AS EASILY AS I COULD. WEAPONS THAT WERE A PART OF MY OLD BODY.

THERE ARE HUNDREDS OF SUCH WEAPONS ALL OVER THIS PLANET. YOU WILL NEVER BE ABLE TO FIND THEM ALL. YOU WILL NEVER KNOW WHERE THEY ARE. BUT THEY ARE IN THE HANDS OF THESE CREATURES THAT YOU ARE SO DESPERATE TO PROTECT. THESE "*INNOCENT*" CREATURES THAT YOU ARE OBSESSED WITH.

THEY WILL BE YOUR UNDOING.

YOU KNOW NOTHING OF THESE PEOPLE, MEGATRON. A FEW WEAPONS IN THE HANDS OF RENEGADES MEAN NOTHING. THERE IS SO MUCH WE CAN LEARN FROM THIS PLANET.

HA HA! PRIME! YOU REALLY ARE ***SO*** PREDICTABLE. I'VE MISSED YOU.

THE ONLY THING YOU HAVE TO LEARN HERE, PRIME, IS HOW YOU HAVE BROUGHT RUIN TO YOURSELF, AND YOUR AUTOBOTS.

IS THIS HOW IT ALWAYS HAS TO BE, MEGATRON? WE MEET, YOU MAKE EMPTY PRONOUNCEMENTS AND THREATS, THEN WE START PUNCHING EACH OTHER? HAS OUR SITUATION STILL NOT EVOLVED BEYOND THIS?

OH, ABSOLUTELY I HAVE, PRIME. LIKE I SAID, I'M NOT HERE TO KILL YOU.

I'VE DUMPED YOUR AUTOBOTS, WOUNDED AND INCAPACITATED, INSIDE THAT CITY.

FIFTEEN MINUTES AGO.

OR YOU CAN SEND YOUR SOLDIERS IN ON A RESCUE MISSION AND MAKE WAR ON THEM.

OF COURSE, IF YOU ATTACK NON-MILITARY PERSONNEL IN THEIR OWN CITIES... YOU WILL NEVER BE WELCOME HERE.

OF COURSE, IF YOU'RE SO COMMITTED TO "LEARNING" FROM THESE HUMANS, I'M SURE YOU'LL SIT BACK AND ATTEND TO THIS LESSON.

SPIKE, CAMPOLONGO, YOU NEED TO GET IN THERE AND FIND THEM.

GOOD. SEND YOUR PETS OFF TO TAME THEIR WILD BROTHERS.

JAZZ, YOU TAKE THEM. YOU'RE FASTEST.

YOU'RE RIGHT, MEGATRON. I WON'T PRETEND THAT I TRUST EVERY HUMAN.

"BUT I TRUST SPIKE."

IT'S ALL OVER THE RADIO ALREADY.

TURN LEFT UP HERE.

THAT MANIAC DUMPED THEM IN THE PLAYGROUND OF A SCHOOL.

JUST PUT DOWN THE GUN. SOMEBODY'S GOING TO GET HURT...

THIS REALLY ISN'T LOOKING GOOD.

SKYWATCH. I'M TAKING OPERATIONAL COMMAND. FIRST THING YOU NEED TO DO IS GET ALL THESE PEOPLE *OUT* OF HERE.

HOW DID YOU GUYS GET HERE SO FAST? CALL JUST WENT OUT.

WE WERE IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD.

YOU GUYS TOOL AROUND IN SPORTS CARS NOW? THIS IS FROM YOUR OFFICIAL MOTORPOOL?

FOCUS LESS ON MY RIDE AND MORE ON *FOLLOWING* MY COMMAND, OFFICER.

LISTEN, EVEN IF YOU ARE WHO YOU SAY YOU ARE, I'M NOT SURE I TRUST YOU GUYS...

WHO'S SIDE ARE YOU GUYS ON? THESE THINGS ARE *ALIENS!* THEY TRIED TO CONQUER OUR *PLANET!*

HOLD YOUR FIRE.

...SIR?

WHAT ARE YOU GUYS DOING? TAKE THOSE TWO MANIACS DOWN!

LET'S JUST SEE HOW THIS PLAYS OUT.

ARE YOU KIDDING ME? YOU'VE GOT UNSTABLE PEOPLE HERE ARMED WITH DEVASTATING WEAPONS!

HEY, CAN YOU GET HIM INTO THE AMBULANCE, PLEASE? GET HIM OUT OF HERE!

I CAN FEEL THEIR PULSES QUICKENING NOW. THEIR VILE, DAMP HANDS TIGHTENING AROUND THE HANDLES... YOUR MEN WON'T MAKE IT.

IT WILL BE SO SATISFYING SEEING YOU DONE IN BY THESE CREATURES YOU'VE TRIED SO HARD TO PROTECT.

OF COURSE.

YOU WOULDN'T LEAVE THIS KIND OF SABOTAGE UP TO CHANCE. YOU'RE IN COMMUNICATION WITH THESE WEAPONS, I HAVE NO DOUBT YOU'RE USING THEM TO CONFUSE THEIR OWNERS AND SPREAD YOUR MALEVOLENCE.

OH, DON'T ***EMBARRASS*** YOURSELF, PRIME. YOU THINK YOU CAN SOMEHOW DISTRACT ME BY FIRING ON ME? YOU CAN'T POSSIBLY HARM ME.

I KNOW.

I COULD FIELD STRIP YOU LIKE A RIFLE! I COULD CRUSH YOUR SPARK IN MY *BARE HANDS!*

SO DO IT, THEN.

PATHETIC, PRIME. I LOSE ONE SOLDIER...

...BUT YOU'LL LOSE *EVERYTHING.*

G-G-K-ZZZ-KK-

DO YOU HEAR... DO YOU HEAR THAT? THE VOICES ARE GONE! THE VOICE...

OKAY, TAKE THEM.

NO ROBOTS

HUMANS

HOW'S IT GOING OUT THERE, JAZZ? PRIME SAYS THE HUMANS MIGHT BE EASIER TO DISARM NOW.

I HAVE NO IDEA, PROWL. SPIKE AND CAMPOLONGO HAVEN'T MADE ANY PROGRESS. I CAN'T JUST SIT HERE WHEN AUTOBOTS ARE IN DANGER.

THIS IS SPINNING OUT OF CONTROL. THESE KINDS OF SPECIAL MISSIONS ARE WHAT I'M ***TRAINED*** FOR. LOW-IMPACT EXTRACTIONS. MINIMUM CASUALTIES—

NO CASUALTIES! WE ARE ***NOT*** GOING IN YET!

THOSE GUYS WERE LOONY-TUNES, NO DOUBT ABOUT THAT.

BUT THAT DOESN'T MEAN THEY WERE *WRONG.*

YOU THINGS AREN'T *PEOPLE*. AND A LOT OF PEOPLE DIED BECAUSE OF YOU.

PRETTY SURE "TO PROTECT" IS IN MY JOB DESCRIPTION. AND RIGHT NOW YOU'RE THE BIGGEST THREAT I CAN—

YOU DON'T... YOU DON'T WANT TO DO THAT. NOT REALLY.

MY FRIENDS HERE... THEY COULD HAVE KILLED EVERY ONE OF YOU. EASILY. JUST STOMPED THROUGH.

BUT WE... ARE HERE TO PROTECT, *TOO*. AND THERE IS SUCH *STRENGTH* IN THAT. TO ACT UNSELFISHLY.

I KNOW YOU HAVE THAT STRENGTH TOO, OFFICER. IT'S WHY YOU PUT ON THE UNIFORM.

THIS IS *INSANE*. WE CAN'T JUST LEAVE THIS UP TO THE HUMANS WHEN LIVES ARE AT STAKE!

JAZZ! STAND DOWN!

OH MAN. NOT AGAIN.

NO!

JAZZ...

...WHAT DID YOU DO?

TO BE CONTINUED!